43

1 CLAIMS 2 [1] An inspection apparatus for cell reaction, which is composed of a device for liquid processor comprising 3 4 a plate-shaped base material; 5 a plurality of first micro conduits extending in a 6 first direction and a plurality of second micro conduits 7 extending in a second direction different from the first 8 direction, which are formed in the base material, 9 micro spaces formed at respective intersections of 10 the first micro conduits and second micro conduits, a valve provided in each of the respective micro 11 12 conduits linked to the micro spaces, for opening and 13 closing the micro conduit, and 14 a valve control mechanism for controlling each of the valves between closed and opened states, 15 16 wherein the apparatus is used in an inspection of a cell reaction, in which a liquid medium necessary for 17 survival of living cells is fed through one of micro 18 19 conduits linked to a selected micro space, in which the 20 living cells are placed, and a test liquid containing a 21 cell stimulator is fed through another micro conduit linked 22 to the micro space to inspect a cell reaction caused by the 23 test liquid.

1 [2] An inspection method of a cell reaction, which 2 comprises using a device for liquid processor comprising 3 a plate-shaped base material,

- 4 a plurality of first micro conduits extending in a
- 5 first direction and a plurality of second micro conduits
- 6 extending in a second direction intersecting with the first
- 7 direction, which are formed in the base material,
- 8 micro spaces formed at respective intersections of
- 9 the first micro conduits and second micro conduits,
- 10 a valve provided in each of the respective micro
- 11 conduits linked to the micro spaces, for opening and
- 12 closing the micro conduit, and
- a valve control mechanism for controlling each of the
- 14 valves between closed and opened states,
- wherein a liquid medium necessary for survival of
- 16 cells is fed to a selected micro space, in which the cells
- 17 are placed, through one of micro conduits linked to the
- 18 micro space, and a test liquid containing a cell stimulator
- 19 is fed through another micro conduit linked to the micro
- 20 space, thereby inspecting a cell reaction caused.
- 1 [3] The inspection method of the cell reaction
- 2 according to claim 2, wherein the same kind of cells are
- 3 placed in a plurality of micro spaces, and different test
- 4 liquids containing a cell stimulator are fed to the
- 5 plurality of the micro spaces.
- 1 [4] The inspection method of the cell reaction
- 2 according to claim 2, wherein different kinds of cells are
- 3 placed in a plurality of micro spaces, and the same test

- 4 liquid containing a cell stimulator is fed to the plurality
- 5 of the micro spaces.
- 1 [5] An inspection method of a cell reaction, which
- 2 comprises using a device for liquid processor comprising
- 3 a plate-shaped base material,
- 4 a plurality of first micro conduits extending in a
- 5 first direction and a plurality of second micro conduits
- 6 extending in a second direction intersecting with the first
- 7 direction, which are formed in the base material,
- 8 micro spaces formed at respective intersections of
- 9 the first micro conduits and second micro conduits,
- 10 a valve provided in each of the respective micro
- 11 conduits linked to the micro spaces, for opening and
- 12 closing the micro conduit, and
- a valve control mechanism for controlling each of the
- 14 valves between closed and opened states,
- wherein a first test process that a liquid medium
- 16 necessary for survival of cells is fed to a selected micro
- 17 space, in which the cells are placed, through one of micro
- 18 conduits linked to the micro space, and a first test liquid
- 19 containing a cell stimulator is fed through another micro
- 20 conduit linked to the micro space, and
- a second test process that the opened and closed
- 22 states of the valves of the micro conduits linked to the
- 23 micro space are changed over after the first test process,
- 24 thereby stopping the feed of the first test liquid and

- 25 feeding a second test liquid different from the first test
- 26 liquid, containing a cell stimulator through a feeding
- 27 route different from the feeding route for the first test
- 28 liquid are conducted, thereby inspecting cell reactions
- 29 caused by these test processes.
 - 1 [6] The inspection method of the cell reaction
 - 2 according to claim 5, wherein the first and second test
 - 3 liquids contain cell stimulators different in kind or
 - 4 concentration from each other.
 - 1 [7] The inspection method of the cell reaction
- 2 according to claim 5 or 6, wherein the cells placed in the
- 3 micro space are cells derived from an internal organ or
- 4 organ of an animal, and the cell stimulators contained in
- 5 the first and second test liquids are selected from cell
- 6 growth factors, cell proliferation factors, hormones,
- 7 nutrients and sera.
- 1 [8] The inspection method of the cell reaction
- 2 according to any one of claims 2 to 7, wherein the
- 3 inspection of the cell reaction is detection of a
- 4 productive substance produced by the cells.
- 1 [9] An inspection method of a cell reaction, which
- 2 comprises using a device for liquid processor comprising
- 3 a plate-shaped base material,

- 4 a plurality of first micro conduits extending in a
- 5 first direction and a plurality of second micro conduits
- 6 extending in a second direction intersecting with the first
- 7 direction, which are formed in the base material,
- 8 micro spaces formed at respective intersections of
- 9 the first micro conduits and second micro conduits,
- a valve provided in each of the respective micro
- 11 conduits linked to the micro spaces, for and opening and
- 12 closing the micro conduit, and
- a valve control mechanism for controlling each of the
- 14 valves between closed and opened states,
- wherein in an inspection of a cell reaction that a
- 16 liquid medium necessary for survival of cells is fed to a
- 17 plurality of selected micro spaces, in each of which the
- 18 cells are placed, through one of micro conduits
- 19 respectively linked to the plurality of the micro spaces,
- 20 and a test liquid containing a cell stimulator is fed
- 21 through another micro conduits respectively linked to the
- 22 plurality of the micro spaces,
- a cell reaction product by the first cells is fed to
- 24 the second cells.